



Civil Air Patrol

Illinois Wing Headquarters Meeting Notes

21 May 2005
Wing Staff Meeting

At 1000 hours the new Chaplain (Capt.) Jimmie Boozer, opened the meeting with an invocation.

Chief of Staff

Note: The wing commander and vice commander were both out of state.

Lt. Col. Rick Oeth congratulated everyone on a job well done at last weekend's evaluated SAR/DR mission. Overall, the participants did an excellent job in presenting the wings SAR, DR and CN capabilities. Col. Oeth further explained that the eval had a positive impact in illuminating a few areas where the wing needs to make some improvements. He referenced an email published by Vice Commander, Lt. Col. Gordy Larson, who stated that CAP-USAF Great Lakes Liaison Region evaluators were looking for every opportunity to rate the wing as excellent. All in all, the weekend proved to be a valuable learning experience.

Col. Oeth plans to circulate an email memorandum outlining general qualifications for a new Wing Director of Operations. He would like interested parties to respond with a brief resume and letter/email explaining their interest and experience that would make them eligible for the position.

Aerospace Education

Major Art Urban has made preliminary contact with the Schaumburg School District for implementing aerospace studies and a Civil Air Patrol presence.

He also announced a plan, to be released soon, for a Wing model rocketry program including Squadron and Group competitions culminating in a Wing competition in late September.

Cadet Programs

The cadet section, and Illinois Wing Commander, was out of state attending the Great Lakes Region Cadet Competition being held at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, OH.

Johnson Flight Encampment

Col. Oeth, JFE commander, briefed that everything is on track for this year's 40th Anniversary encampment. There are still a few slots left in glider and hot air balloon sections. Any unit with

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cadets interested in attending should contact Col. Oeth – cs@ilcap.org – as soon as possible. Presently there are 47 cadets registered representing the IL, DE, OH, LA, MI, AL and IN wings.

Chaplain

The new IL Wing Chaplain, Capt. Jim Boozer, has consolidated all relevant regulations and procedures into an easy to follow, one-page guideline for Chaplains, Moral Leadership Officers and commanders. It covers procedures and policies that span several regulations and manuals.

In addition, he is implementing a mentor program where new Chaplains will be assigned to work with, and be trained by an experienced Chaplain. This will resolve a great deal of uncertainty that confronts new Chaplains regarding the intricacies of the CAP program.

Communications

Two RLA classes were recently conducted, but no paperwork was turned into the wing communications director, Lt. Col. Jim Weiland. These were large classes and a number of cadet and senior members do not have their CAP radio permits as a result.

Several wings have reported problems with the new airborne radio repeaters that are being issued. Apparently they are calibrated on the ground, but when airborne conditions change interfering with the radio's signal. National has committed to purchase 100 units with large wings slated to receive two. The final plan is to purchase 400 for distribution across the country.

The Milwaukee, WI repeater is coming back on line. Quiet times on the Chicago area repeaters will be reinstated to avoid blanking out their evening radio net.

When radio equipment in the field changes hands, a new CAPF 37 must be completed. The recipient must also apply for a new station license before using the equipment.

Government Relations

Col. Oeth reported that Lt. Col. Fred Herschelman is exploring the possibility of having the state issue special CAP license plates. He'll report on his findings after contacting state officials.

Col. Herschelman is also providing information to IDOT Division of Aeronautics on how the Wing can assist IDOT in times of emergencies and natural disasters. The main focus right now is on communications. CAP-USAF State Director, Mr. Geoff Biedermann, pointed out that requests for CAP support may be made directly to the National Operation Center even if a Memorandum of Understanding does not exist.

Information Technology

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Col. Oeth authorized the Wing Director of IT to move the Wing's web site to a new server provider that would alleviate the problems the Wing is currently having with forwarding emails to staff and commanders.

Critical Incident Stress Management

Lt. Col. Dick Ordlock announced that 115 participants at last weekend's SAR/DR eval mission received a CISM debrief. This is a Great Lakes Region and National record. Illinois Wing is only one of two or three wings with an active CISM response team. This was just one of the many highlights of the eval.

Standardization & Evaluation

Major Dennis Grandalski announced that National Headquarters is providing funding for 10 pilots to receive 5 hours of training on the new Cessna 182 to familiarize them with the glass cockpit navigation and communication capabilities.

Emergency Services

Major Bob Taylor stated that there will be an official debriefing meeting for the SAR/DR evaluated mission this Wednesday, May 25th, at the DuPage Wing Headquarters starting at 7:00 pm.

He asked Wing Staff Directors to work with him to insure that information from their Directorates is posted on the WMU. For example, the WMU has listings for Wing vehicles, drivers, etc. This information must be added to the WMU and kept up to date by the appropriate Wing Staff.

Major Taylor is preparing a supplement to CAPR 60-3. National Headquarters must approve any supplement to this regulation.

Professional Development

Lt. Col. Carl Schweinler indicated that plans are underway for a special event to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of conduction Squadron Leadership Schools and Corporate Learning Courses in the Wing. The ceremony is planned to coincide with this fall's SLS/CLC class scheduled for Scott AFB, IL. All wing cadets and seniors will be invited to attend this special occasion.

Logistics

Director of Logistics, Lt. Col. Will Johnson, was pleased to announce that the Wing has been elevated to the lowest materiel screening freeze level. Only six open items remain to be resolved

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before the Wing is completely off of LG screening. As a result, the Wing was able to take delivery and utilize the new Cessna 182 and a van assigned to Group 9.

Col. Johnson asked that members do not just drop off used or unwanted equipment in his office at the Wing Headquarters. Many times, he cannot trace the origin of the equipment and cannot properly effect its reassignment or disposal. Members must make contact with him prior to returning equipment, or at least include a note with the returnee's name, address, email, etc. and a description of why the item was returned.

Public Affairs

Col. Joe King made the preliminary announcement of a new web page dedicated to Public Affairs. One of the links is to a new IL Wing Blog (Web log) that was created by PA's 2nd. Lt. James Kalemis and Capt. Paul Hanna. Members are invited to send items of interest to them for inclusion in the blog. The site is linked to the IL Wing web site's home page, or can be reached directly at <http://ilwg.cap.org/pao>. The site links to Wing newsletters and Meeting Notes as well.

In today's news broadcasts, CNN reported on the testing of the new laser warning system that identifies Washington DC restricted airspace to wayward pilots. It was mentioned in every story that CAP was being used to conduct the test.

A new program called, "In Your District" is being implemented. Units should report promotions, awards and special events to the Wing PA and they will be sent in a special format to national, state and local political officials. This will be an invaluable tool in keeping the Wing's name in front of people who could be of help to us some day. The IL Wing Legislative Squadron will also be promoted. More information on this program to follow...

The Great Lakes Region Conference, scheduled for August 12 –14, 2005 in Mackinaw City, MI has received over 80 registrations already. A substantial discount on the banquet is being offered to the first 100 members of GLR units who register. If anyone is planning on attending, they should register now! Registration information is contained on the Conference's web site: <http://conference.glr.cap.gov>.

Transportation

Major Bob Waichunas confirmed that the new Wing van is heading to Group 9. Right now, it is at Midway Airport awaiting pick up.

Recently, Major Waichunas circulated an email requesting that Wing personnel with current CAP drivers' licenses send him a photocopy of their Illinois and CAP drivers' licenses. The suspense date is May 31, 2005. Anyone who does not comply will be stricken from the official list of active licenses.

Aircraft Management

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Col. Ron Westholm announced that plans are under way to once again equip the Wing's aircraft fleet with APRS equipment that will allow ground tracking of the craft during training and actual missions. This system has proved invaluable in the past. At least five aircraft still have equipment installed. He is working with an ad hoc committee to prepare an implementation and utilization plan along with a budget. Col. Oeth suggested that they expand their scope to include APRS in Wing vans as well.

Finance

The new Wing Finance Officer, 2nd. Lt. Janicemae Gierzynski presented the current Wing financial position:

Bank Balance	\$23,220.83
Receivables	\$2,689.00 ¹
Payables	\$00.00 ²

The new director has been working closely with the Command Section to learn the CAP accounting system. With her financial experience, it should be a short learning curve.

These notes have been compiled by IL Wing PA, Col. Joe King, pa@ilcap.org.

¹ This figure includes \$2,371.00 in pilot billings that are current as of January 2005. Plans are underway to bring the billings up to date in the near future.

² Several bills and check requests were presented to Finance during the staff meeting.